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ON THE RACKS

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Two stories by Bruce Jones, with Bo Hampton & Chuck Beckum art.

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NEW DNAgents no. 9
The startling conclusion to the tale of Venimus!

DEAD REDS: As i sit down to write, news has come of a nuclear power "accident" in Russia, with the dead numbered at either two (what the soviets are saying) or in the thousands (reports gathered from ham radio operators in the area). Radioactive waste is spewing into our atmosphere, 49,000 human beings in the immediate vicinity were not evacuated until they'd been exposed to hazardous levels of radioactivity for 36 hours due to soviet government foul-ups, all the animals within an 18 mile radius of the plant were destroyed because they were "contaminated," warnings have been issued in some Eastern European countries that rainwater and milk are unfit to drink and that people should avoid conceiving children until radiation levels drop, a group of American bone marrow transplant experts have been flown to Russia to try to save the "operable cases" of radiation contamination, the town of Pripyat (25,000 inhabitants) is abandoned, the Pripyat River is in danger of contaminating the Dnieper River and thence the water supply of Kiev, and on page four of my daily newspaper, a long article by American nuclear power "experts" tells me that not only are we all perfectly safe, but "it couldn't happen here."

I despise liars.

Meanwhile, not a single comic book company is taking out ads to eulogize dead Russians the way they did for the dead Challenger space shuttle crew. Maybe 'cause they're reds and this is a cold war, or maybe 'cause we like our dead heroes to be killed quickly, cleanly and in a blaze of glory — but for whatever reason, nobody is out there shedding tears for the firefighters who tried to contain the nuclear plant inferno ("30 meter high flames," according to the soviet news agency, Tass) while they sank into liquifying asphalt.

Does it matter that they were commies? Does it matter that they were victims of the most massive totalitarian slave-state the world has ever known? Does it matter that they probably believed that Science — that unholy god — was on their side?

I've got news for you, folks: Science isn't on ***anybody's*** side. Science is just the most workable way to learn about that thing us aging hipsters laughingly call "reality." The Laws of Science bind us to themselves, and we can never escape. Among the Laws are these: Hydrogen is quite explosive . . . and nuclear radiation is deadly. Hydrogen can be harnessed, through containment, but accidents will happen and people can die if they're involved in a hydrogen explosion. Nuclear radiation can be harnessed through containment too, but accidents will happen, and people can die if they're involved in a nuclear explosion, plant meltdown, radiation link, or contamination by fallout.

Consider the odds . . . i don't know about you, but i'd feel safer aboard a space shuttle right now than downwind from Chernobyl. Nuclear power will NEVER be safe. It's too bad so many reds had to die to prove that simple scientific law.

catherine yronwode

THE NEW WAVE™ no. 1, June 10, 1986. Published by Eclipse Comics, P.O. Box 199, Guerneville, CA 95446. Catherine Yronwode, Editor-in-Chief. Dean Mullaney, Publisher. Sean Deming, Editor. The New Wave, Tachyon, Polestar, Megabyte, Avalon, Impulse, and Dot TM Eclipse Enterprises, Inc. Story ©1986 Mindy Newell. Art ©1986 Lee Weeks and Ty Templeton. All other material ©1986 Eclipse Enterprises, Inc. All rights reserved. The stories, characters and events in this magazine are fictional. Film by SM Graphics. Printed in Canada.

THERE ARE PEOPLE ABOVE US.

ARE THEY THE *SAME* AS YOU AND ME? DO THEY *FEEL* WITH EQUAL *INTENSITY*? WHAT DO THEY *THINK* WHEN THEY LOOK DOWN? DO THEY EVER WORRY ABOUT *FALLING*? DO THEY SUFFER FROM A FEAR OF HEIGHT?

WHAT IS IT LIKE TO *WATCH* OUR DAYS AND NIGHTS *SAIL* BY? IS IT LIKE FLIPPING THROUGH THE PAGES OF A *BOOK*? DOES IT MAKE THEM WANT TO EXPLORE FURTHER?

OR DO *THEY* BROWSE THROUGH LIFE, AS *WELL*? PICKING AND CHOOSING RANDOM *MOMENTS* THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO ONLY *THEM*? WITHOUT EARTHLY MEASURES, DO THEY SET UP THEIR OWN PARAMETERS OF *BEHAVIOR*?

the NEW WAVE™

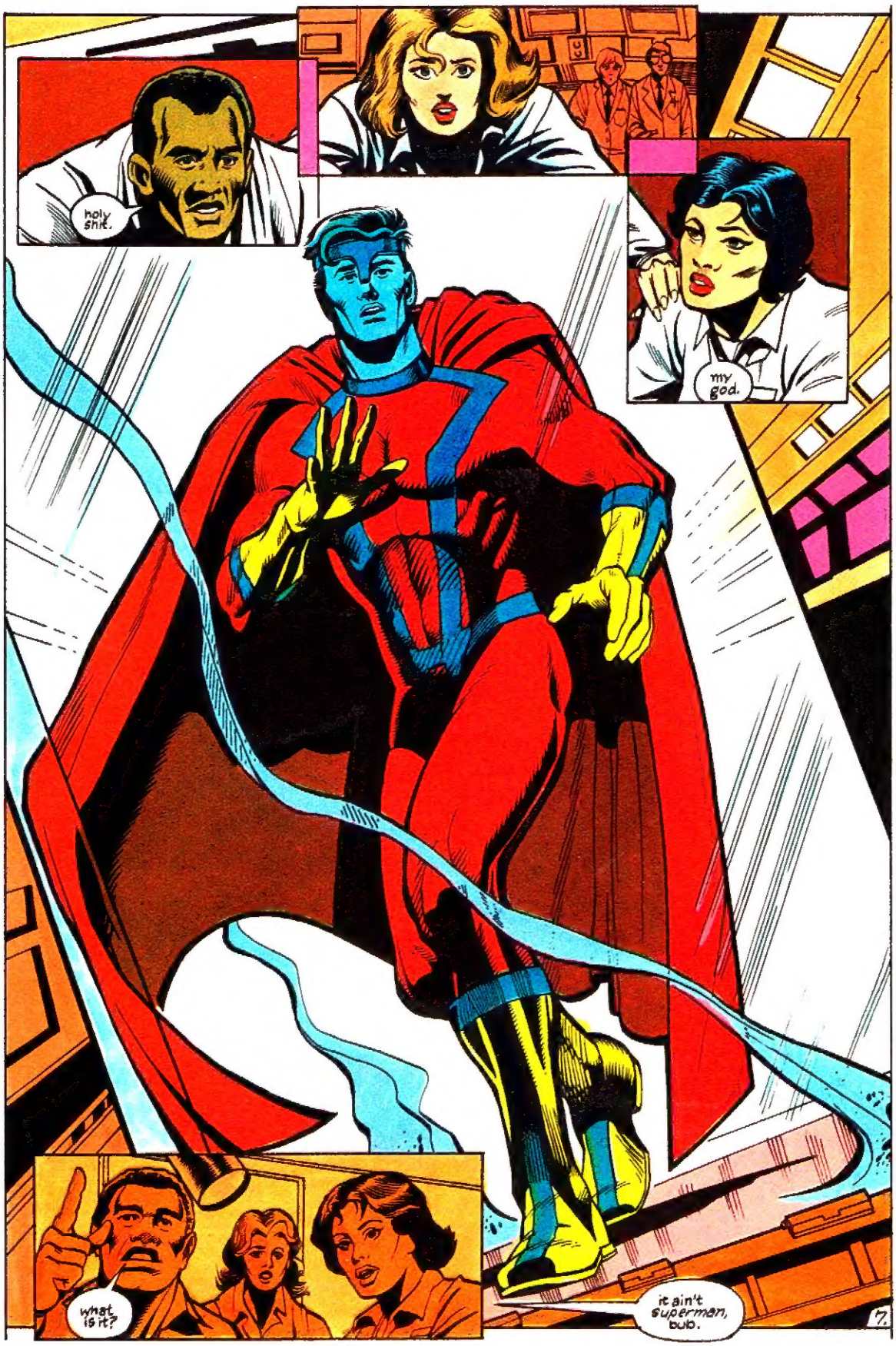
"The Man in the CORPORATE BOOTH"

THIS STORY TAKES PLACE BEFORE THE EVENTS OF THE PREVIEW STORY, SEEN IN *MIRACLEMAN* #8 AND *THE NEW DNAGENTS* #9

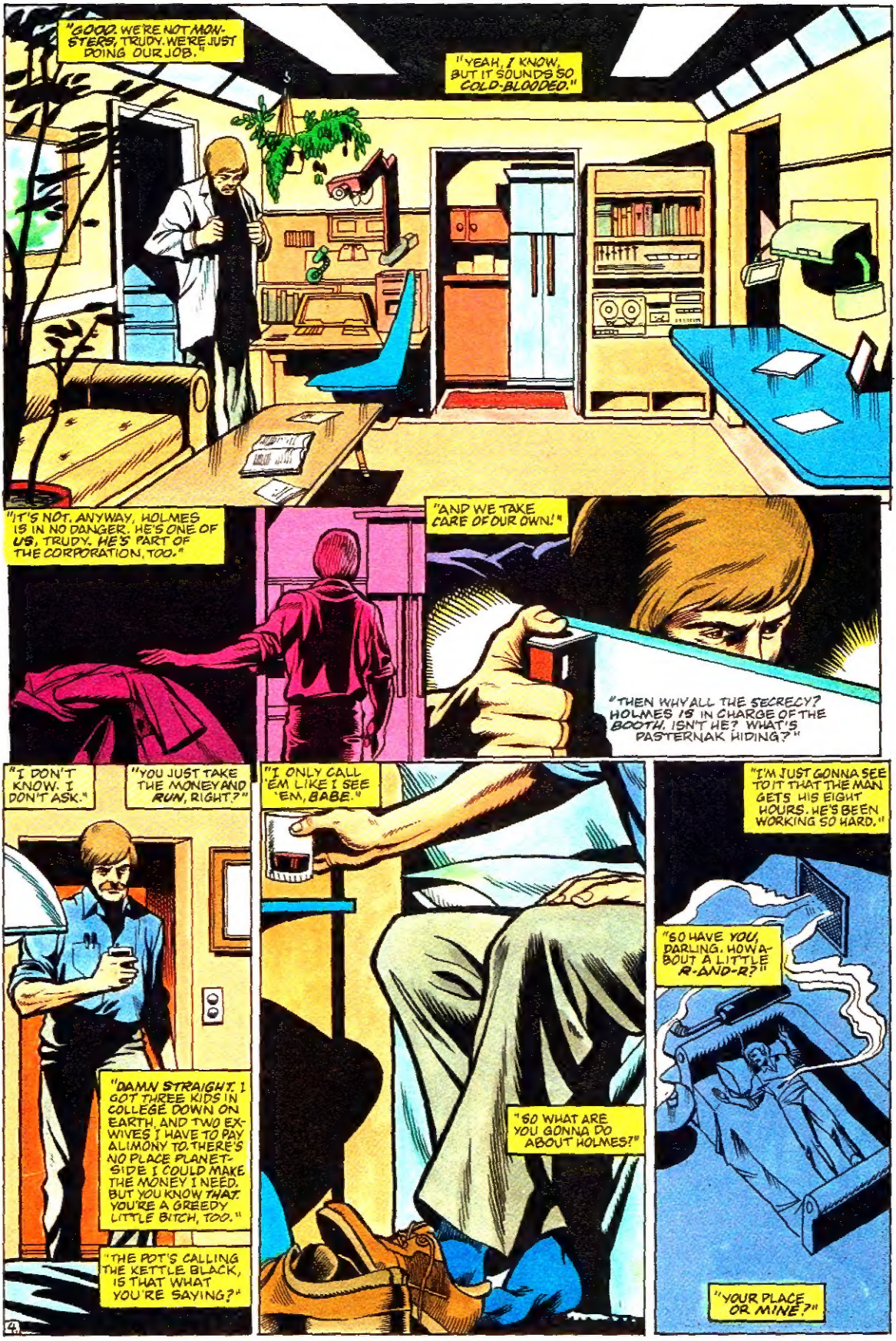
STORY	SCRIPT	PENCILS/LETTERS	INKS	COLORS	EDITOR	EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
SEAN DEMING & MINDY NEWELL	MINDY NEWELL	LEE WEEKS	TY TEMPLETON	RON COURTNEY	SEAN DEMING	CAT ⊕ YRONWODE

THANKS TO *MARK GRUENWALD* FOR THE COSTUME DESIGNS.

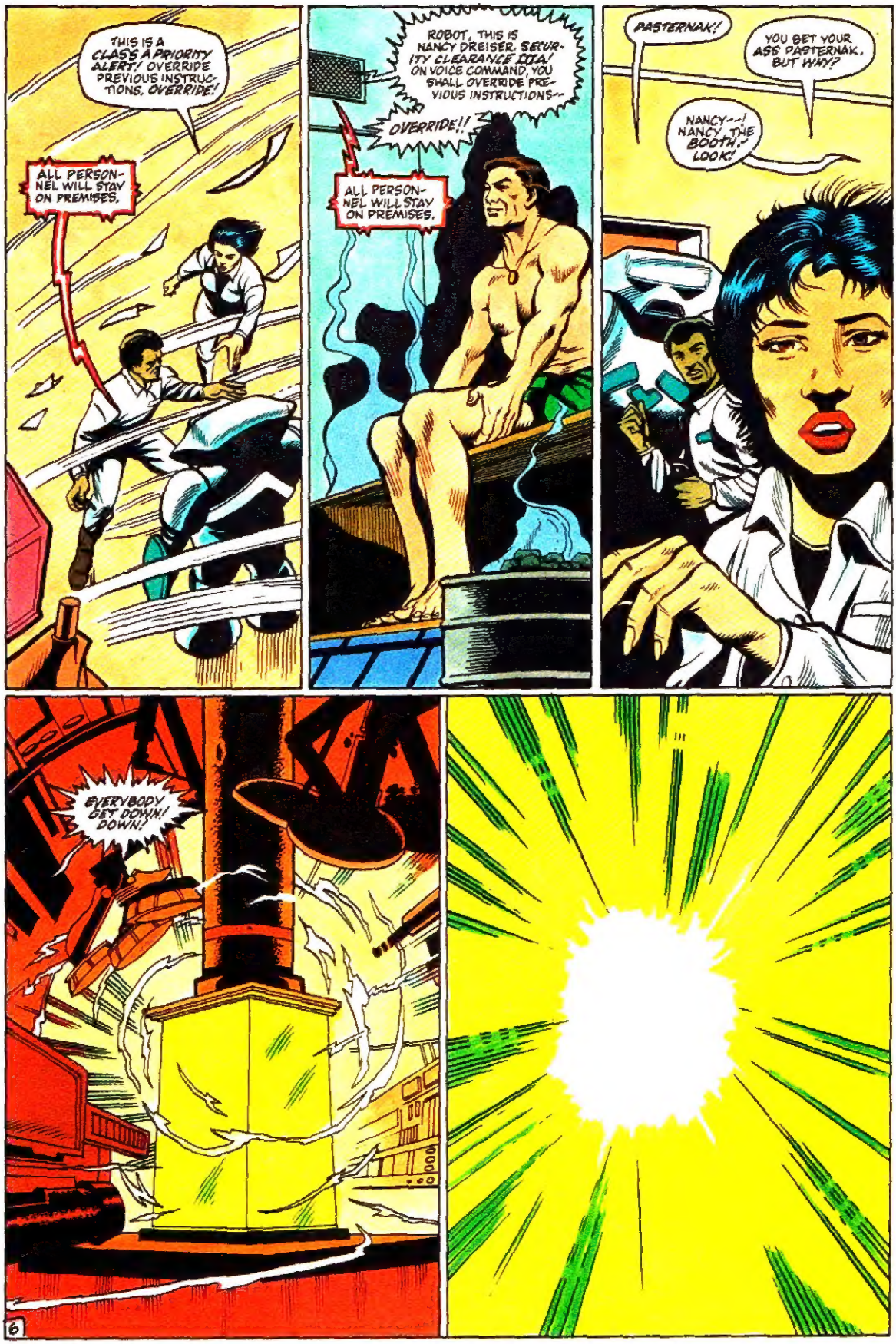
...AND *SPECIAL* THANKS TO *DON THOMPSON* AND *MAGGIE THOMPSON* WHOSE RESEARCH ON *THE HEAP* FOR THE PREVIEW AND FUTURE ISSUES WAS INVALUABLE.

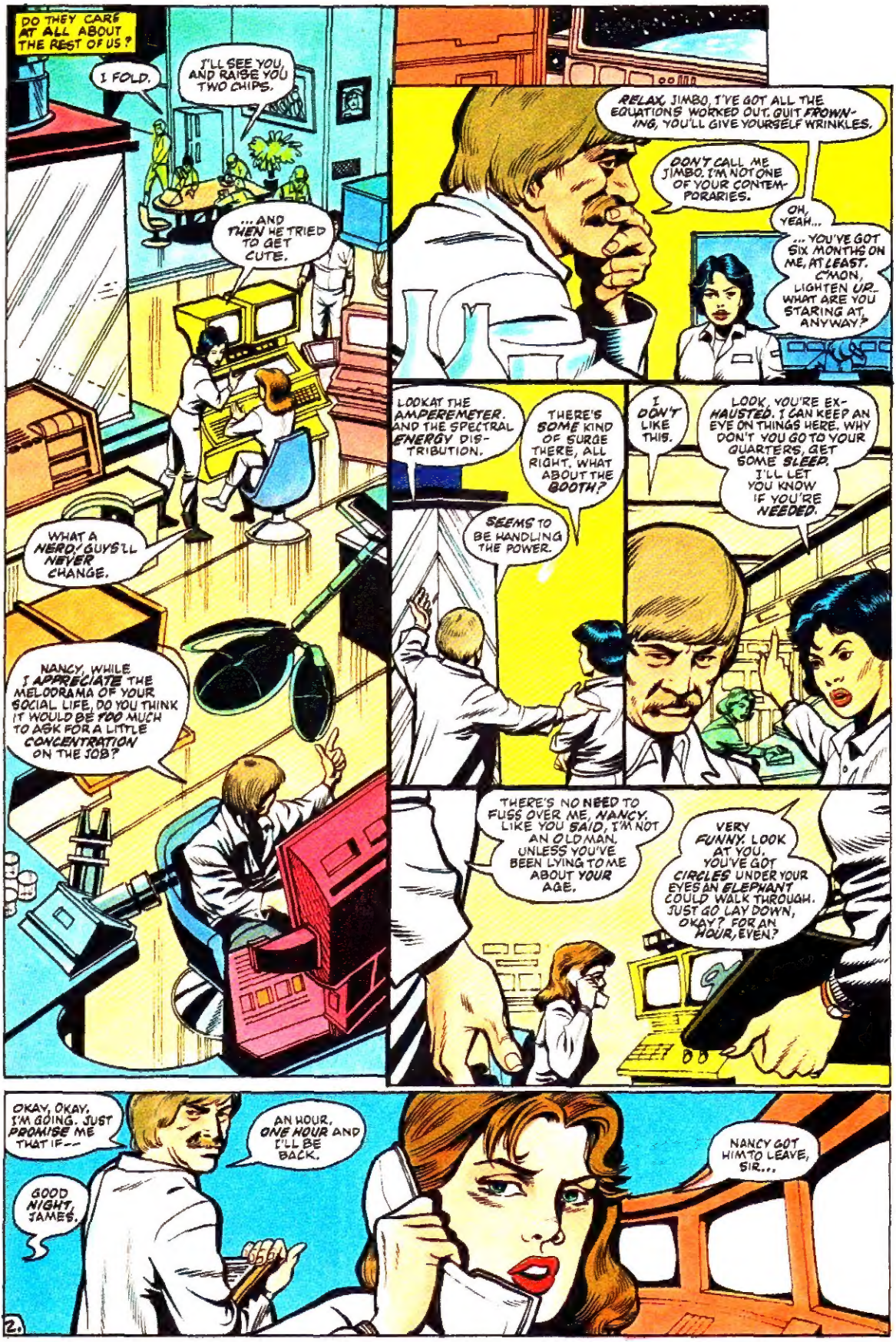

holy shit.
my god.
what is it?
it ain't superman, bub.

...BUT HE SAID HE'D BE BACK IN AN HOUR.
WE'LL HANDLE THAT FROM THIS END, JUNE.
GO BACK TO WORK.
YOU HEARD?
I HEARD. YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF THIS, ROGER. I TRUST YOU.
WE STILL NEED PROFESSOR HOLMES.
NO ARGUMENT.
BUT IF WE KILL HIM--
YANKEES LOST AGAIN TO THE RED SOX!-
IF LOU DOESN'T WATCH HIMSELF, BILLY MARTIN WILL BE MANAGING AGAIN.
SEND A MESSAGE TO GEORGE, JACK.
BOSOX POUND GUIDRY FOR 5 HOMERS.
MR. PASTERNAK, WHAT ABOUT HOLMES?
TELL HIM I WANT LOU TO HANG AROUND FOR A WHILE.
IF THERE IS NOTHING ELSE, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THIS MEETING IS CLOSED.
I'LL BE IN THE HEALTH CLUB.
MR. PASTERNAK. WE STILL HAVEN'T RESOLVED--
NOBODY SAID ANYTHING ABOUT KILLING, MS. STEINBERG, THIS ISN'T ONE OF THOSE MOVIES YOU SEEM TO BE SO FOND OF.
THIS ISN'T THE DEATH STAR, NOR AM I DARTH VADER.
WE'RE A CORPORATION, AND I AM MERELY THE CEO.
ALL RIGHT?
ALL RIGHT.
bullshit!
GOT A PROBLEM, TRUDY?
Huh? NO.
3.


"GOOD. WE'RE NOT MONSTERS, TRUDY. WE'RE JUST DOING OUR JOB."
"YEAH, I KNOW, BUT IT SOUNDS SO COLD-BLOODED."
"IT'S NOT. ANYWAY, HOLMES IS IN NO DANGER. HE'S ONE OF US, TRUDY. HE'S PART OF THE CORPORATION, TOO."
"AND WE TAKE CARE OF OUR OWN!"
"THEN WHY ALL THE SECRECY? HOLMES IS IN CHARGE OF THE BOOTH, ISN'T HE? WHAT'S PASTERNAK HIDING?"
"I DON'T KNOW. I DON'T ASK."
"YOU JUST TAKE THE MONEY AND RUN, RIGHT?"
"DAMN STRAIGHT. I GOT THREE KIDS IN COLLEGE DOWN ON EARTH, AND TWO EX-WIVES I HAVE TO PAY ALIMONY TO. THERE'S NO PLACE PLANET-SIDE I COULD MAKE THE MONEY I NEED. BUT YOU KNOW THAT. YOU'RE A GREEDY LITTLE BITCH, TOO."
"THE POT'S CALLING THE KETTLE BLACK, IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE SAYING?"
"I ONLY CALL 'EM LIKE I SEE 'EM, BABE."
"SO WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO ABOUT HOLMES?"
"I'M JUST GONNA SEE TO IT THAT THE MAN GETS HIS EIGHT HOURS. HE'S BEEN WORKING SO HARD."
"SO HAVE YOU, DARLING. HOW-A-BOUT A LITTLE R-AND-R?"
"YOUR PLACE OR MINE?"

WHEN DID THIS START??
THERE WAS THE SURGE RIGHT BEFORE JAMES LEFT, REMEMBER?
WELL, GET HIM BACK! WE NEED HIM!
DANGER: overload
CAN'T DO THAT. YOU KNOW WHAT THE ORDERS ARE!!
TO HELL WITH THE ORDERS! WE'RE LOSING CONTROL HERE, JUNE!
WHAT ABOUT PASTERNAK?!
I'LL HANDLE HIM! GET JAMES IN HERE, NOW!!
JESUS H. CHRIST, THIS WIND'S GIVING ME THE CREEPS. WHERE'S IT COMING FROM? HOW CAN YOU HAVE WIND IN A CONTROLLED ENVIRONMENT...?
I CAN'T GET THROUGH TO HIM!
KEEP TRYING!
...HORACE! HORACE, GO GET HOLMES, NOW!
WHAT THE--
GET OUT OF MY WAY, LUMMOX! THAT'S AN ORDER!!
ALL PERSONNEL WILL STAY ON PREMISES.
GET OUT OF MY WAY!
NANCY!
ALL PERSONNEL WILL STAY ON PREMISES.
5.


THIS IS A CLASS A PRIORITY ALERT! OVERRIDE PREVIOUS INSTRUCTIONS. OVERRIDE!
ALL PERSONNEL WILL STAY ON PREMISES.
ROBOT, THIS IS NANCY DREISER. SECURITY CLEARANCE XXA! ON VOICE COMMAND, YOU SHALL OVERRIDE PREVIOUS INSTRUCTIONS--
OVERRIDE!!
ALL PERSONNEL WILL STAY ON PREMISES.
PASTERNAK!
YOU BET YOUR ASS PASTERNAK. BUT WHY?
NANCY--! NANCY, THE BOOTH--LOOK!
EVERYBODY GET DOWN! DOWN!


DO THEY CARE AT ALL ABOUT THE REST OF US?
I FOLD.
I'LL SEE YOU, AND RAISE YOU TWO CHIPS.
...AND THEN HE TRIED TO GET CUTE.
WHAT A NERD! GUYS'LL NEVER CHANGE.
NANCY, WHILE I APPRECIATE THE MELODRAMA OF YOUR SOCIAL LIFE, DO YOU THINK IT WOULD BE TOO MUCH TO ASK FOR A LITTLE CONCENTRATION ON THE JOB?
RELAX, JIMBO. I'VE GOT ALL THE EQUATIONS WORKED OUT. QUIT FROWNING, YOU'LL GIVE YOURSELF WRINKLES.
DON'T CALL ME JIMBO. I'M NOT ONE OF YOUR CONTEMPORARIES.
OH, YEAH...
...YOU'VE GOT SIX MONTHS ON ME, AT LEAST. C'MON, LIGHTEN UP. WHAT ARE YOU STARING AT, ANYWAY?
LOOK AT THE AMPEREMETER. AND THE SPECTRAL ENERGY DISTRIBUTION.
THERE'S SOME KIND OF SURGE THERE, ALL RIGHT. WHAT ABOUT THE BOOTH?
SEEMS TO BE HANDLING THE POWER.
I DON'T LIKE THIS.
LOOK, YOU'RE EXHAUSTED. I CAN KEEP AN EYE ON THINGS HERE. WHY DON'T YOU GO TO YOUR QUARTERS, GET SOME SLEEP. I'LL LET YOU KNOW IF YOU'RE NEEDED.
THERE'S NO NEED TO FUSS OVER ME, NANCY. LIKE YOU SAID, I'M NOT AN OLD MAN, UNLESS YOU'VE BEEN LYING TO ME ABOUT YOUR AGE.
VERY FUNNY. LOOK AT YOU. YOU'VE GOT CIRCLES UNDER YOUR EYES AN ELEPHANT COULD WALK THROUGH. JUST GO LAY DOWN, OKAY? FOR AN HOUR, EVEN?
OKAY, OKAY, I'M GOING. JUST PROMISE ME THAT IF--
AN HOUR, ONE HOUR AND I'LL BE BACK.
GOOD NIGHT, JAMES.
NANCY GOT HIM TO LEAVE, SIR...

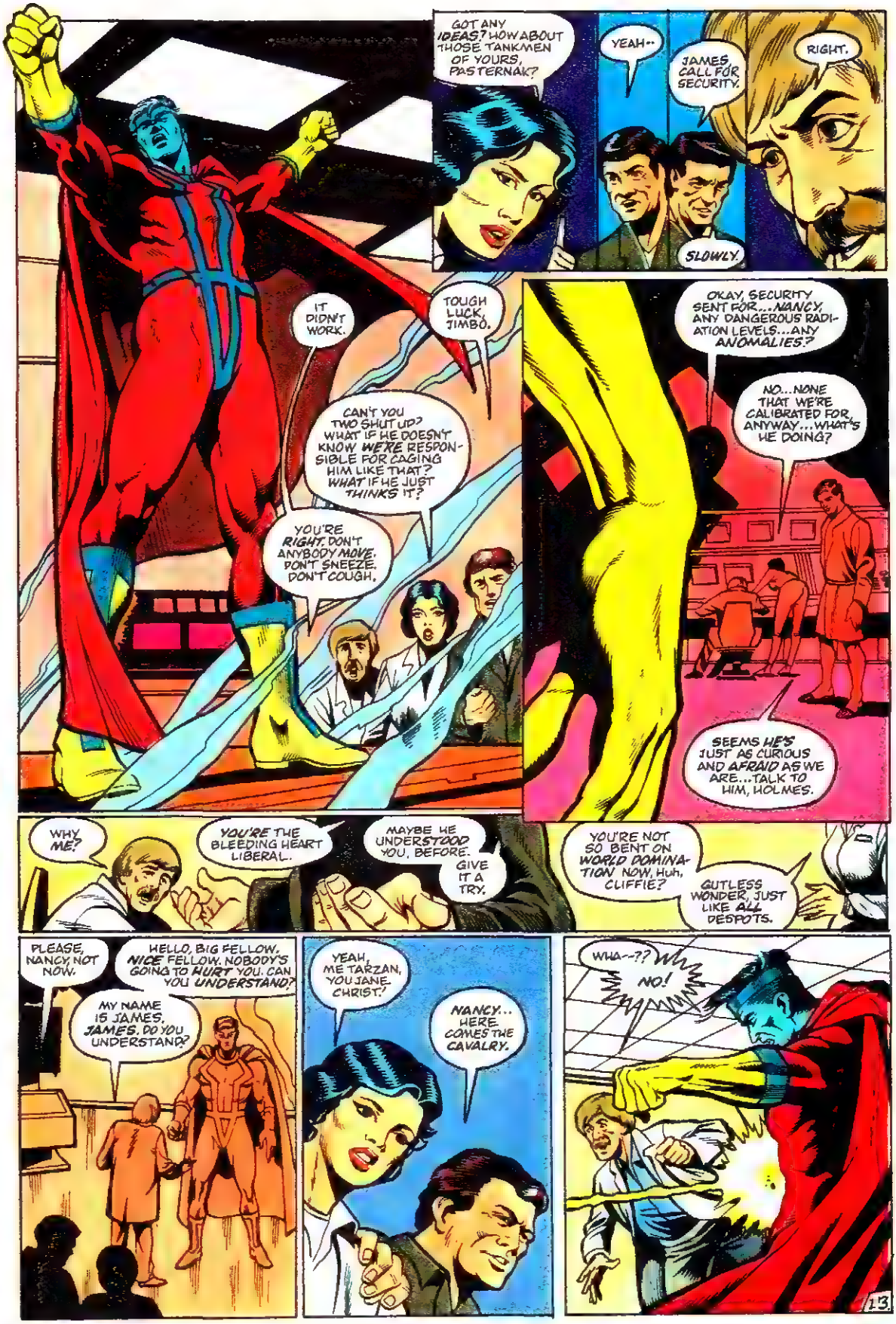
QUITE RIGHT, NANCY.
MAGNIFICENT CREATURE, ISN'T HE?
HORACE, GET TO HOLMES. TELL HIM TO GET HIS ACT TOGETHER AND GET IN HERE, NOW!
YOU DON'T SEEM SURPRISED, CLIFF.
WHY SHOULD I BE? THIS IS WHAT I WAS WORKING FOR.
WELL, THIS IS NOT WHAT I WAS HIRED FOR!
NO?... I WANT A COMPLETE WORK-UP ON THIS FELLA, NANCY. BLOOD, NERVOUS SYSTEM, ORGANS, EVERYTHING!
YOU'RE NOT GETTING ANYTHING UNTIL YOU EXPLAIN!
I'M THE BOSS, NANCY, DEAR. I DON'T HAVE TO EXPLAIN ANYTHING.
BUT WHERE'D HE COME FROM? HOW DID YOU KNOW HE WAS THERE?
AND WHY--? WHY ALL THE SECRECY?
HE'S FROM OUTSIDE.
OH. THAT'S BRILLIANT, CLIFF. I COULD NEVER HAVE DEDUCED THAT FOR MYSELF.
SARCASM, NANCY? I DON'T LIKE SARCASM.
AND I DON'T LIKE MYSTERIES! YOU WANT ME TO ADMIT TO BEING CURIOUS? OKAY, I ADMIT IT! I'M A SCIENTIST. EVEN IF YOU HADN'T ORDERED IT...
...I'D START A COMPLETE OVERHAUL ON THIS FELLA. BUT IF YOU EXPECTED HIM, THEN YOU MUST KNOW, OR AT LEAST HAVE SOME IDEA WHERE HE'S FROM...
...AND AS A SCIENTIST WHO NEEDS A WORKING HYPOTHESIS, I'D LIKE TO HEAR IT!
I TOLD YOU. HE'S FROM OUTSIDE. THERE'S YOUR HYPOTHESIS.
WHEN YOU START WORKING ON HIM, YOU'LL FIGURE OUT THE REST. AFTER ALL, I ONLY HIRE TOP TALENT.
I'LL TELL YOU WHERE HE'S NOT FROM, NANCY. HE'S NOT FROM ANY PLANET YOU CAN THINK OF. NOT IN OUR SOLAR SYSTEM...
NOT IN OUR GALAXY, OR ANY OTHER. NOT IN OUR UNIVERSE.
8.

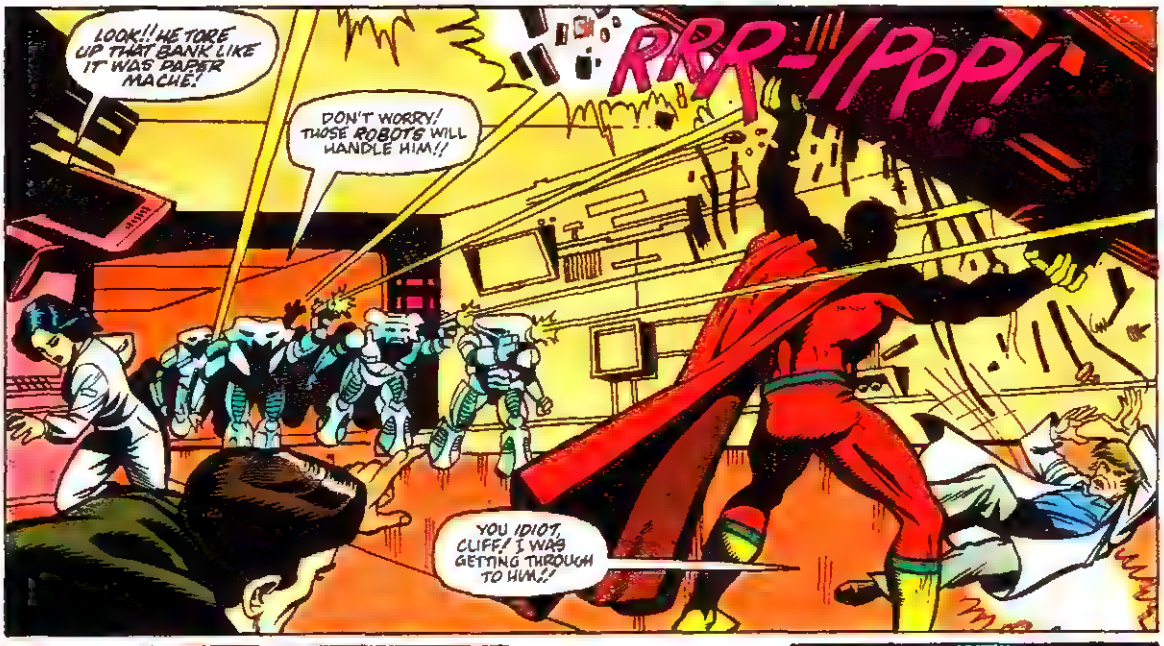
HE TRULY IS FROM OUTSIDE.
JAMES! JUST WOKE UP? YOU MISSED THE ARRIVAL, BUDDY.
CUT THE CRAP, CLIFFORD! I'D STILL BE OUT IF IT WASN'T FOR OLD HORACE, HERE.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT
DON'T YOU?
JAMES, I REALLY--
YOU REALLY SURPRISED ME, NANCE. SO SOLICITOUS OF ME...
...SO WORRIED I WASN'T GETTING ENOUGH SLEEP.
AND I THOUGHT WE WERE FRIENDS.
I THOUGHT WE WERE ALL FRIENDS.
JIMBO, YOU'RE NOT WELL. YOU'RE HARDLY ABLE TO--
DON'T TOUCH ME. I'M ALL RIGHT. JUST A LITTLE HUNG-OVER. SOMETHING GOT INTO THE AIR IN MY ROOM.
I'LL HAVE THE TECHNICIANS CHECK OUT THE CIRCULATION SYSTEM.
YEAH. YOU DO THAT.
PLEASE, JIMBO. TRY TO UNDERSTAND. I WAS ONLY FOLLOWING--
--ORDERS. YEAH. CLIFFIE'S A GREAT ONE FOR GIVING ORDERS.
SO I GOT A LITTLE DESPOTIC. GUESS IT COMES WITH THE JOB. NO HARD FEELINGS, eh, JIMBO? THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT WE DID IT.
YOU DID IT.
YES. YES, I DID, DIDN'T I?
POOR FELLOW.
WHAT HAVE WE DONE TO YOU?
9.

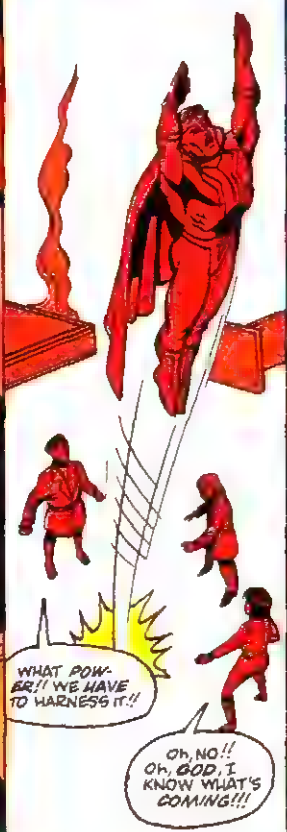
YOU KNEW ABOUT THIS, JAMES? YOU KNEW ALL ALONG WE WEREN'T WORKING ON SYSBOY-MASS CONVERSIONS?? I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
FLESH-PEDDLERS, SLAVERS, KIDNAPPERS. WHO ISSUES WARRANTS FOR INTERUNIVERSAL KIDNAPPINGS, CLIFF? FBI, INTERPOL?
OR MAYBE HIS PEOPLE ARE ARRANGING A POSSE RIGHT NOW.
YOU SEE WHY I HAD TO GET HIM OUT OF THE WAY AT THE CRUCIAL MOMENT, NANCY? SOMETHING'S HAPPENED TO HIM IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS.
HE WAS EAGER AT THE BEGINNING. WEREN'T YOU, JAMES? ALL THE WAY BACK TO THE BEGINNING, AT THE ROCKEFELLER INSTITUTE.
BUT WHAT ABOUT OUR GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS? WHAT ABOUT FINDING A WORKABLE INTERPLANETARY DRIVE FOR SPACE COLONIZATION? WERE THEY LIES, TOO?
NO, NO, THEY'RE TRUE ENOUGH. BUT THEY WERE ONLY A SIDELINE.
THE CORPORATION WAS REALLY SET UP TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF PARALLEL UNIVERSES. WE TOOK THE GOVERNMENT'S MONEY, THOUGH, NOT ENTIRELY LEGAL, BUT HELL, EVERYBODY DOES IT, RIGHT?
AND SO I'LL GO TO JAIL WITH THE REST OF YOU BASTARDS? NO THANKS. I'M PULLING OUT OF THIS RIGHT NOW!
YOU'RE OVER-REACTING, NANCY. THE GOVERNMENT WILL GET THEIR DRIVE. AND A REAL HONEST-TO-GOODNESS EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL, BESIDES.
I THINK THEY'LL BE VERY INTERESTED ENOUGH TO OVERLOOK ANY MINOR ILLEGALITIES.
YOU'RE NOT TELLING ME EVERYTHING, ARE YOU, CLIFF?
NONE OF THIS EXPLAINS ALL THE SECRECY, OR THOSE WALKING TANKS YOU USE FOR SECURITY! WHAT ARE YOU REALLY UP TO?
YOU'D BETTER TELL ME.
I COULD MAKE A LOT OF TROUBLE.
10

I DON'T THINK SO, NANCY. REMEMBER, ALL PEOPLE WHO WORK FOR THIS CORPORATION HAVE A COMPLETE DOSSIER IN THE FILES.
WE ALL HAVE REASONS FOR WORKING UP HERE, DON'T WE, MY DEAR? BEYOND THE JURISDICTION OF THE LAW.
WHAT ARE YOU THREATENING ME WITH?
YOU'RE FAMILIAR WITH LAUNDERING GOVERMENT MONEY, AREN'T YOU, MY DEAR? AND EMBEZZLEMENT, TOO, I BELIEVE.
THAT WASN'T MY FAULT! I DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT!
THAT'S WHAT YOU SAY. THE COURTS CALL YOU AN ACCOMPLICE, JUST AS THEY WOULD IF FOUND OUT ANYTHING ABOUT THIS LITTLE OPERATION.
BUT DON'T WORRY. UNDER THE NEW ORDER, NO CHARGES WILL BE MADE AGAINST YOU.
IN FACT, YOU'LL BE A VALUED MEMBER OF THE INNER ECHELON.
INNER ECHELON? NEW ORDER? WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
NANCY, YOU'RE AN INTELLIGENT WOMAN. I DON'T HAVE TO EXPLAIN EVERYTHING, DO I?
YOU'RE OUT OF YOUR MIND!!
AM I? THE WORLD CAN'T KEEP GOING ON THE WAY IT IS. TOO MANY NATIONS, TOO MANY INDIVIDUAL DREAMS.
THE ONLY SALVATION IS UNITY. TOTAL AND ABSOLUTE UNITY.
CLIFF IS FURTHER GONE THAN I DREAMED, MY FAULT.
SHOULD HAVE DONE SOMETHING ABOUT IT SOONER. SHOULD HAVE SPOKEN UP SOONER. BUT I WAS AFRAID.
CAN'T BE AFRAID ANY LONGER.
HITLER TALKED LIKE YOU, PASTERNAK.' IS THAT YOUR IDEA OF UNITY.?
HITLER WAS A TWISTED PETTY MAN WITH DELUSIONS OF GRANDEUR, AND PARANOID TO BOOT.
TAKE A LOOK IN THE MIRROR!!
I DO, EVERYDAY, WHEN I SHAVE. AND I LIKE WHAT I--
NO!! HOLMES, WHAT THE HELL HAVE YOU DONE!!
WHAT I SHOULD HAVE DONE A LONG TIME AGO, BUDDY.

STOP IT!!
OOF!
--CAN'T DO THAT, PAL. I'M SENDING THAT CREATURE BACK WHERE HE BELONGS, AND OBSTROYING THE BOOTH WHILE I'M AT IT!
YOU'LL KILL US ALL, MAN!
I DON'T CARE ABOUT DYING ANYMORE.
DAMN YOU, JAMES! I DO!! GET OUT OF MY WAY, PASTERNAK! I'LL STOP IT!... AND EVERYBODY ELSE, GET OUT OF HERE, JUST IN CASE.
CAN'T DO THAT, NANCE. I SET IT FOR AUTOMATIC OVERLOAD!
YOU'RE INSANE!
YOU BOTH ARE. WE ALL ARE!
IT'S NO GOOD!
THE LIGHT! SO BRIGHT!
THERE HE GOES, CLIFFIE! BACK WHERE HE CAME FROM!
OH YEAH??
12


GOT ANY IDEAS? HOW ABOUT THOSE TANKMEN OF YOURS, PASTERNAK?
YEAH--
JAMES, CALL FOR SECURITY.
RIGHT.
SLOWLY.
IT DIDN'T WORK.
TOUGH LUCK, JIMBO.
CAN'T YOU TWO SHUT UP? WHAT IF HE DOESN'T KNOW WE'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR CAGING HIM LIKE THAT? WHAT IF HE JUST THINKS IT?
YOU'RE RIGHT. DON'T ANYBODY MOVE. DON'T SNEEZE. DON'T COUGH.
OKAY, SECURITY SENT FOR... NANCY. ANY DANGEROUS RADIATION LEVELS... ANY ANOMALIES?
NO... NONE THAT WE'RE CALIBRATED FOR, ANYWAY... WHAT'S HE DOING?
SEEMS HE'S JUST AS CURIOUS AND AFRAID AS WE ARE... TALK TO HIM, HOLMES.
WHY ME?
YOU'RE THE BLEEDING HEART LIBERAL.
MAYBE HE UNDERSTOOD YOU, BEFORE. GIVE IT A TRY.
YOU'RE NOT SO BENT ON WORLD DOMINATION NOW, Huh, CLIFFIE?
GUTLESS WONDER, JUST LIKE ALL DESPOTS.
PLEASE, NANCY, NOT NOW.
HELLO, BIG FELLOW. NICE FELLOW. NOBODY'S GOING TO HURT YOU. CAN YOU UNDERSTAND?
MY NAME IS JAMES. JAMES. DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
YEAH, ME TARZAN, YOU JANE. CHRIST.
NANCY... HERE COMES THE CAVALRY.
WHA--?? NO!





NEXT ISSUE: CLIFF NANCY AND JAMES HOLDING ON FOR *DEAR LIFE*--BUT WILL IT DO THEM ANY *GOOD*?? IS IT TRUE THAT NO ONE CAN HEAR YOU *SCREAM* IN SPACE? ARE THEY ABOUT TO FIND OUT? COULD THE *CORPORATION'S* PLANS FOR *WORLD UNITY* GO ON WITHOUT THE *BIG BOSS*? AND WHAT DO THEY WANT WITH *TACHYON*? IS HE FRIEND OR FOE?? BE HERE IN JUST TWO WEEKS FOR--

"WHEN A STRANGER COMES TO CALL"--MINDY

HIGH TIDE

In addition to being published in a revolutionary new format, the book you hold in your hands will undoubtedly prove to be one of the most emotional, intriguing and visually exciting new series to enter the comics forum!

Those of you who have seen the sneak preview of **The New Wave** in the pages of **Miracleman** no. 8 or **The New DNAgents** no. 9, and those of you who are turning to this page after you finish this first issue know something of the treat that is in store for you because **The New Wave** series starts with action and the action will only get wilder as we go along!

So you know we've got some good stuff on the way, but you say you want to know who the "we" is who promise you all the super-hero action you want in a twice-monthly package you can afford? Glad you asked. That gives me a chance to tell you about:

Mindy Newell -- Mindy was my first choice as writer of **The New Wave**. Last summer I read a couple dramatic scripts she wrote, and quickly appreciated the intense personal emotion she could evoke in her characters and in me. Her work for DC Comics on the **Legion of Super Heroes**, **Amethyst** and the just-released **Lois Lane** mini-series are shining examples of how well she can mold a character and story. I can't express how happy I was to find out she was available to work with us and eager to take on the responsibilities of writing **The New Wave**. And I do mean "responsibilities." Being the first writer in America to tackle a bi-weekly, on-going series is no easy job. Yet, Mindy keeps putting more and more into Her work. Mer masterful handling of the characters, both as a team and as individuals, will keep you on the edge of your seat, because the pacing is fast and furious in this new format, and you're in for some real surprises before the next few issues are over.

Lee Weeks -- Lee is one of the most expressive pencillers I've seen. His natural way of conveying the emotions of people and the events they partake in demonstrates a powerful cinematic approach to story-telling. Lee came to to us with a story he and his friend, Tom Field, had worked up for **Tales of Terror** called "Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk." That story worked out so well, we offered Lee more work, and then more, until we decided to give him the Real Thing -- his own series, and not just any series, but a brand new one that nobody else had ever drawn before. A fresh concept and a fresh new artist -- we think that's a natural.

Ty Templeton -- Our Publisher, Dean Mullaney, suggested Ty as inker on **The New Wave** after seeing the latest issue of **Stig's Inferno**, which Ty writes and draws himself. Dean didn't have to convince me -- one look at his work and I knew that Ty was perfect for the job. In addition to his inking ability, Ty is an incredibly talented penciller, well versed in many styles of illustration. His inking work is outstanding, especially in his strong use of blacks which accentuate the mood set out by Lee -- but don't forget to check out his pencils AND inks on **Adolescent Radioactive Black Belt Hamsters in 3-D** no. 1.

Ron Courtney and Sam Parsons -- These are the people who paint the colors in the book. Ron took on the opening sequence, but Sam is standing in the wings waiting to go on as regular painter, while Ron will be moving over to the pages of **Airboy**. In addition to their work on the bi-weeklies, Ron can be found in the pages of **Miracleman** and Sam is wielding the paint brushes on **Scout**. Both of them also handle a good part of Eclipse's short-story painting chores and work on our reprint line as well.

Next, let me tell you about some things which should be obvious by now. The book you're holding is 16 pages long. This is exciting because in only two weeks, you'll be getting another 16 page dose of **The New Wave**! This is a first for American comics, but we're not stopping there -- next month we're coming out with **Airboy**, another 16 page bi-weekly comic that will ship on alternating weeks with **The New Wave**. That's a new comic every week, gang. Haven't you always wished you didn't have to wait a month between issues? Well, not you won't

Needless to say, the fifty cent price tag is the lowest you'll find on the stands anywhere, so not only will you get these books more often, they'll be good for your budget!

If this sounds like the start of something, you're right. It's the beginning of a whole new "universe" for Eclipse Comics. This means we'll be bringing you not only new characters, but a new committment to featuring the kind of continuity-crossovers you've been asking for. In fact, the "Eclipse Universe" is all set to have its first crossover in just a couple weeks. The storyline of **The New Wave** Preview continues directly into the **Airboy** Preview, which will appear in **The New DNAgents** no. 10, **Scout** no. 9 and **Miracleman** no. 9.

If you picked up this issue but don't yet have **The New Wave** Preview, I suggest you run out and get it, because it features the first appearance of the New Wave and the first modern appearance of the Heap, the original swamp monster from which all others followed. Both the New Wave and the Heap carry over to the **Airboy** Preview so continuity buffs won't want to miss it.

Airboy deserves a page to itself, so I'll let you read all about it in **Airboy** no. 1; but I do want you to know that it is the revival of one of the most inspirational comics of all time! The people working on this book include Tim Truman, Chuck Dixon, Tom Yeates, Stan Woch and Willie Blyberg. Hope that whets your appetites enough!

Many hands went into forming the New Wave. Some of them put in a lot of time and effort, some offered a suggestion or two and the rest fit somewhere in between. My heartiest thanks go to the following (in no particular order): Mark Gruenwald Don Thompson, Maggie Thompson, Tim Truman, Dean Mullaney, Cat Yronwode, Cynthia Martin, Ken Steacy and our creative team, Mindy Newell, Lee Weeks, Ty Templeton and Ron Courtney.

It is a priveledge to be working with such a foursome as Mindy, Lee, Ty and Ron. All of us have an insatiable drive to give you the best of what we have to give.

Oh, yes . . . I'll be editing the book.

My name's

--Sean

NEXT:

FROM ECLIPSE COMICS™

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Dear Loyal Customer,

Due to recent severe flooding in Guerneville, our home town, most of our stock of back issues has been destroyed.

We are currently conducting an inventory of those books which remain, and will be securing additional copies to offer you.

Watch this space for our updated list of available Eclipse Comics.

—The Eclipse Staff

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BY EVANIER & SPIEGLE

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